See Model Cottage Rules

THE NORTH STAR.

Published in connection with The Northern Light, Fort Wrangel.

Vol. IX. SITKA, ALASKA, AUGUST, 1898. No. 5.

"Even the night shall be light about me."

LETTER FROM JUNEAU.

I am now entering on the fifth year of my pastorate of this people. Within the four years of my pastorate, seventy-five souls have been admitted into the Church on profession of their faith, sixty-two infants have been baptized, and I have officiated at twenty-nine native marriages. While seventy-five have been added to the Church, yet, owing to removals caused by deaths and change of residence, we are scarcely stronger numerically than we were when I assumed the pastorate. The Klondike gold craze has had a marked effect on our church work. Owing to it, a number of our church members, and some who were attendants, yet not members, have moved away from here and we see their faces no more in church. While this is true, yet, from the unsaved who have remained, we gain new recruits every quarter. Our growth is steady and healthy and has been from the beginning. But, as I said before, it about equalizes the loss from removals.

In conjunction with my pastorate, I have had the superintendency of the Mission Home; but as I have received an order to close the Home, this is now about at an end. The sad order to close came about the first of June. It grieved us very much to be obliged to dismiss the dear children, to whom we had become so attached, to their old homes and customs of living. They had the alternative to go to Sitka and enter the Mission there or go with their parents. So far—and nearly all have been disposed of—none have gone to Sitka. There were none of our children but regretted the necessity of their leaving their Mission Home. All would have gladly stayed, and said that if we were to reopen the Home, they would gladly return. As they were so attached to their Home, and as the most of them had made such advancement, and being of a tender age, it was most painful to us to compel them to return to a life from which we had been educating them.

What the results of this expulsion will be I cannot fully foretell; but I fear that it means the breaking up of our Sabbath-school, as the children are now scattered far and wide: and as our Mission teachers were our Sabbath-school teachers,—these being dismissed from the service,—even should the children live here to come to the school, I would have no teachers. Then, too, it will have a tendency to largely reduce the attendance on the day school. What effect it will have on the church work remains to be seen. But for the children's sake more than for any other thing I regret exceedingly that the Board found it necessary to order the Home closed.

Yours truly,

L. F. JONES.

A RECEPTION OF WELCOME.

It is not often that the busy lives of the missionaries allow time for anything of a social nature, except the most informal occasions, but the ladies of the Sitka Mission found time to welcome Dr. and Mrs. Wilbur, soon after their return, with a delightful reception. The superintendent's and teacher's rooms were beautifully decorated with ferns, potted plants and Alaska-grown pansies. Rev. and Mrs. McClelland and Judge Kelly received the guests, who numbered more than a hundred, and Mrs. Carter presented them to the Doctor and his bride. Certainly, no young people ever began life anew with more sincere wishes for their welfare, nor with happier evidence of the cordiality and esteem of their friends.

A MEDICAL INCIDENT.

It is occasionally a little hard to tell just how a person does feel when one receives an answer like the following. This is verbatim, and similar ones are not uncommon.

DOCTOR. Well, John, how do you feel?

JOHN. O! I feel all right this time. From my heart up this side to my head it hurts; down my leg to my feet its very sick; and my heart and my head it very hurts.

Camping parties, berry picking, and fishing are now keeping the children out of doors, browning their faces and brightening their eyes.

THE NORTH STAR.

Founded by REV. SHELDON JACKSON, D. D., General Agent of Education for Alaska.

B. K. WILBUR, M. D., EDITOR.

Published Bi-monthly in the Interest of Schools and Missions in Alaska,
With Special Reference to Sitka Training-school.

EDITORIAL.

With this issue we present to our subscribers the last number of THE NORTH STAR. As noted in the last issue, the work of editing and publishing the paper has been too great to be properly carried on in connection with the ordinary and more necessary duties of a physician's life. We keenly realize that it has been impossible to give our subscribers as good a bulletin of news as was their due, and unless a paper can be *well* published it would better be *unpublished*.

Then another reason obtains: The Missions of Alaska can be amply reported by one paper, and as that bright and attractive sheet, *The Northern Light*, of Fort Wrangel, and THE NORTH STAR have been reporting much the same work, the editors have decided to combine the papers, being satisfied that such a union will be beneficial to all interested.

Dr. Clarence Thwing, who has in *The Northern Light* given his readers an excellent paper in the past, will continue as editor. The paper will hereafter be published bi-monthly, and every possible effort will be made to have reports from every Protestant mission station in Alaska at least once a year. We shall try to keep awake and up to the high-water mark of interest. No glacial currents shall cool our efforts to keep you informed, nor shall any Alaskan rains dampen the enthusiasm in our cause. We have received many words of praise and, better still, not a few sincere expressions of "God-speed." It is peculiarly refreshing to receive such notes and good wishes.

Believing that the new arrangement will increase their interest in the work, we urge our subscribers to continue their support. All unexpired subscriptions will be completed, and should any feel there is any unfairness in this arrangement, their money will be gladly refunded.

Dr. and Mrs. B. K. Wilbur arrived at the Mission early in July from the East. The bride and groom are still new enough to receive well-wishes and congratulation.

SITKA MISSION NOTES.

The Hospital has been cleaned, and a few improvements made, and is ready for the winter work.

Mr. J. E. Gamble, with a crew of the Mission boys, has secured a large raft of logs for winter use.

Thanks to the care and skillful management of Supt. Kelly, the Mission plant is in most excellent condition.

Miss Esther Gibson spent two weeks on a canoe trip, in May, in company with a native man and his wife. The weather was unusually fine, and the whole journey proved most delightful.

Selina and Annie Leask, daughters of Mr. David Leask, of Metlakahtla, who for the past two years have been in training at the Hospital, returned home last month. They were greatly loved at the Mission, and were most excellent assistants in the medical department.

A "HURRY CALL."

The notes or messages a doctor sometimes receives from the natives are full of pathos, telling of their absolute confidence in the doctor's ability to perform the impossible. Here is a note from a cripple girl, to whom even palliation became impossible.

"DEAREST DOCTOR,—I will tell you that I am very sick last night I not sleep I could not because my cough. I can't eat anything without hearding me, this two days I been feeling very sick. You know brother I am not afraid to die. I want to go now, I feel the Lord is with me every day. Now this all, good afternoon, brother. Your sister,

ELIZA HALL."

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

We have forty-five pupils in our primary department. Seventeen of the larger pupils of this number are half-day pupils. But few of the children taken into the Home have ever attended school before coming to us, consequently the primary consists of pupils whose ages range from four to twenty-two years,—the second reader and long division being the most advanced grade. Language largely consists of the construction of sentences in which the pupil is to use certain words which have been written on the blackboard.

MRS. M. A. SAXMAN.

SEWING-ROOM.

The sewing-room on the third floor of the girls' building is an interesting place to visit. Here the mending, making of new garments, and knitting, is done by the girls whose ages vary from ten to twenty. These busy girls helped to make 838 articles, mended 18,428 pieces, besides completing a large number of pairs of stockings, during the year 1897. The smallest number mended any one month was 1,107 in February; the largest, 2,085 in July.

MRS. A. H. CARTER.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

"Be sure to teach your pupils how to utilize their own native food," was the urgent request of one interested in the cooking department. So far we have depended entirely upon venison, fish and ducks, using eggs and butter for baking purposes. The pupils are interested to learn the different ways of preparing the fish and game, but their favorite dish is the meat stew or fish chowder, which they insist upon calling "soup."

MISS OLGA HILTON.

MODEL COTTAGE SETTLEMENT.

The readers of THE NORTH STAR are familiar with the Model Cottage Settlement at Sitka. It will be interesting for them to know the rules and regulations governing that interesting colony.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE MODEL COTTAGE SETTLEMENT,
SITKA, ALASKA.

DECLARATION OF RESIDENTS.

We, the people of the Westminster Addition to the Village of Sitka, Alaska, in order to secure to ourselves and posterity the blessings of a Christian home, do severally subscribe to the following rules for the regulation of our conduct and town affairs:—

1. To reverence the Sabbath and refrain from all unnecessary secular work on that day; to attend divine worship; to take the Bible for our rule of faith; to regard all true Christians as our brethren; and to be truthful, honest and industrious.

2. To attend to the education of our children and keep them at school as regularly as possible.

3. To totally abstain from all intoxicants and gambling, and never attend heathen festivities or countenance heathen customs in surrounding villages.

4. To strictly carry out all sanitary regulations necessary for the health of the place.

5. Never to alienate, give away, or sell our land, or building lots, or any portion thereof, to any person or persons who have not subscribed to these rules.

Signed,.....

Date..... .....*Witness.*

GREETING FROM HYDAH.

Twinkle, twinkle, little STAR,
We *may* wonder where you are.
Hope to find your rays more bright
When you're wed with NORTHERN LIGHT.

Congratulations in order? Call and see us on your tour.

Not many people at Hydah Mission on Fourth of July, since "retrenchment" closed our training-schools.

Fishing season is our banking season; the natives have abundant employment and a compensation such as would make many a glad heart among laboring classes in many parts of the world.

Of course, we miss Rev. and Mrs. McClelland. The first Sunday after their departure our morning congregation was seventy; a few more at Sunday-school. Last Sunday all were whites except one.

People from different parts of the world are coming this way. The promise is for developement of resources and establishing of new communities, which only increases the importance of School and Church. I think about thirty baptisms have been administered during the past year.

The organization of a Christian Endeavor Band has given the natives something to do, and infuses quite an enthusiasm, bringing about a renewal of vows and an awakening of slumberers, and bringing the doubtful to decision. Frequent services are held at private houses and outdoor meetings on pleasant evenings. At camps these attract to the religious center and from demoralizing pastimes. Their fervor may sometimes be a trifle demonstrative; yet, so far, the deportment comes within the "decently and in order," as though the devotion were genuine. We only wish we might be able to give them a little more personal attention.

The outlook, in spite of our recent reverses and bereavements, is encouraging. If others forsake us, we trust the Lord to take us up.

With a prayer for a blessing upon all associated with THE NORTHERN LIGHT with her STAR of rejoicing, and for strength of union and long years of usefulness, I hope to be,

A READER.

For new subscribers to THE NORTHERN LIGHT, Second Series, Mrs. Willard's fascinating story of the Alaskan natives, "*Kindashon's Wife*," (Price $1.50), will be given as follows: One copy of the book to any one sending $3, with ten single subscriptions, or two subscriptions for ten copies (each to one address); also, for $2, with five single subscriptions, or one subscription for ten copies to a single address.

Complete files of First Series (20 numbers), $1.

The Northern Light:

A Bi-monthly Exponent of the Work of Presbyterian Missions in Alaska.

PUBLISHED AT FORT WRANGEL, ALASKA,

BY REV. CLARENCE THWING, M. D.

Subscription Price, 30 cents.
Ten Copies to One Address, $1.50 a Year.

SIXTH YEAR, NO. 1. AUGUST, 1898.

"A light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn."

SALUTATORY.

TO ALL FRIENDS OF THIS MISSIONARY PAPER, WHETHER OLD OR NEW.

Greeting!

With this issue we enter upon the sixth year of consecutive publication of THE NORTHERN LIGHT, and begin the second series, to be issued every two months, instead of only four times a year. Twenty quarterly numbers have been printed and copies of each have been preserved for those who wish to have a complete file. The more frequent issue in future is only possible through the coöperation of Dr. Wilbur, who has so ably conducted *The North Star* at the Sitka Mission for some years past, and others whose support has hitherto been divided between the two periodicals. The union of the above monthly with THE NORTHERN LIGHT, quarterly, has been planned for over a year past, and has now providentially been accomplished, greatly to the satisfaction of many interested in both papers.

As stated in the June number, Dr. Wilbur, Rev. Mr. Clelland and others will contribute regularly to the news and views of the paper, and so a variety of topics and opinions is confidently expected. Reader, will you do your part? Subscribe; renew your subscription; get another subscriber; order a package to distribute at the missionary meeting, and you will help on in the good work. May the Lord bless you, as we are blest.

MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.

The annual gathering of Alaska Presbytery was held at Juneau, July 15 to 18, and was attended by all the ministers who are now in active service in Southeast Alaska. Two are stationed at Juneau, one came from Sitka, one from Haines (Chilkat), and one from Wrangel. Rev. M. D. McClelland was chosen moderator, and Rev. J. H. Condit was reëlected stated clerk for two years. Resolutions of regret at the death of Prof. Gambell and the retirement of Rev. A. E. Austin, who labored eighteen years at Sitka, were adopted. A resolution in favor of the stricter enforcement of the prohibitory liquor law and deploring the efforts being made for its repeal, and a resolution approving the union of *The North Star* and THE NORTHERN LIGHT, and commending the united paper to the churches and friends of missions, were also adopted. Assignments of ministers to their present charges and to the oversight of vacant churches were made, and appropriations by the Home Board in accordance with the needs of the field were recommended. The rules were revised, and Committees on the Boards and on Systematic Beneficence were appointed. The informal discussions and prayerful conferences upon various important matters were more helpful and essential, perhaps, to the welfare of the work in hand than some of the more formal transactions.

LOCAL NEWS.

The Second Church at Wrangel has been doing well in the line of self-support. About $180 have been contributed toward the payment of Rev. Mr. Kennedy for his services the past three months, besides several offerings for benevolent purposes. Mr. Kennedy has now severed his connection with this field to find employment in Tacoma. A successor is wanted, who can live on a moderate salary and is willing to work for the love of it.

Rev. Mr. Thwing and family were away for nearly a month (during June and July) visiting at Blaine, Ballard and Seattle, Wash. The three boys had all been sick with measles, whooping cough and more or less malaria, so that the steamer rides and the drier air of Puget Sound were sought to reinvigorate them. All are now in better health and glad to be home again.

THE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK

Publishes Sunday-school Literature, Lesson Helps, Illustrated Papers, Library and Gift Books, "*The Hymnal*" and "*The Chapel Hymnal*," (the best hymn and tune books ever issued), a large variety of Tracts and Evangelical Literature. The denominational standards and books on practical religion, etc. Everything for the Church and Sunday-school and for the private library. Books of all publishers, in every department of literature, at lowest prices. Special lists of books furnished for libraries, and suggestive lists of books bearing on special subjects will be sent on application. Address, JOHN H. SCRIBNER, Bus. Supt., Pres. Board of Publication, 1319 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa., or H. S. ELLIOTT, Manager Pres. Board of Publication, Wabash Ave. and Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.

CRESCENT MFG. CO.

Teas, Coffees, Spices, Flavoring Extracts, Etc.

OFFICE AND FACTORY:
308 OCCIDENTAL AVENUE, SEATTLE, WASH.

B. B. Dearborn, Printer, Seattle, Washington.

THE NORTH STAR.

Vol. 5. Sitka, Alaska, December 1892. No. 12.

HISTORY OF THE MISSION.

The Sitka Mission was started in 1878. Rev. J. G. Brady was sent out in the spring of that year by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions. He held religious services in the hall of the Castle on Sabbath, cleared out a room in the old Guard house and fitted it up with rough seats, blackboards and etc for a school room. Miss Kellogg came on in a month or two and took charge of the day school. She remained here but a few months when she married the Rev. S. Hall Young and went to Fort Wrangel. Mr. Brady visited Hoonah and other places by canoe to explore the field; at the end of the year he returned to N. Y. and resigned his commission. The Mission and day school was broken up.

In 1879 Mr. Austin taught a day school for the few Americans and Russian children, organized and conducted a sabath school. All the children in the place attended this school, Jews Russians and Americans. In 1880 Mr. Austin's family came out from New York, his daughter having been commissioned by the Board to reopen the day school. Rev. G. W. Lyons was also sent out to resume the Missionary work. His own health and that of his wife was very poor. He was just getting over a serious illness when he came and the climate did not seem to agree with him, so that he was obliged to leave after staying a year. Miss Austin reopened the day school soon after her arrival with one hundred and three scholars. Capt. L. M. Beardslee U. S. N. took a deep interest in the work from the beginning and rendered most valuable assistance in a hundred ways, going so far as to make the natives in the Indian village clear their streets, whitewash their houses, which were in a most filthy condition, as he did not think it was fit for a teacher to enter one of them. His authority worked wonders among the natives in this and many other ways for the benefit of our school and Mission. Our schoolroom was dark and dingy. It was on the top floor of the Guard house an old Russian building built of squared logs. The room had been used by prospectors and miners to cut their wood in, and as a convenient place to empty their straw beds when they left to prospect new fields. There was an immense skylight over the center of the room. Once upon a time it let in the light only but now it let in the rain as well. The floor had to be bailed out when it rained and it rained nearly all the time. It did not seem to trouble the Indian children, unless the stream ran down the back of their necks. This was fun for them, but it would cause them to shift their position. The teacher, like Noah's dove, sought in vain a dry place for the soles of her feet.

The children are very bright and apt to learn. They seem to be just thirsting for knowledge and especially that knowledge which makes wise unto salvation. Their eyes fairly sparkle with delight when they come to some long word like condemnation, everlasting etc. There was one great drawback to the success of our work, and that was their irregular attendance. Nearly every week their parents would take them away with them to fish or hunt, and early in the spring they would take them away with them in their summer wanderings, and often we would not see their faces again until the return of winter. The Indians made a vile kind of liquor called hoochinoo and sometimes nearly all the natives in the ranch would be crazy drunk, stabbing affrays were frequent, and it seemed sometimes as if pandemonium was let loose. Often the poor children came to the school from their houses—dens—without a mouthful of breakfast, and we soon became convinced if we would do them any permanent good, we should need to have a boarding school where we could feed, clothe and educate them. In such a school they would be removed from their environments of filth, vice and crime and we could enforce a regular attendance at school, etc. We urged this statement upon the attention of the Board from time to time, but then as now, the finances were low and they did not feel like enlarging the work. One day seven of the brightest boys in the school came to Miss Austin asking if she could not get them some room in town where they might stay nights, as there was so much noise in the Indian village they were afraid of their lives, so much noise they couln not sleep. There was a large Russian building in the upper end of the town called the hospital. It had been used for that purpose by the Russians, and by our soldiers when the country was turned over to our government. The Collector, then as now, was the custodian of the public buildings. The fact at that time he was the Government of Alaska. He was a genial hospitable man, and very friendly to the Missionaries, but the natives were not regarded with much favor at that time, especially as they had threatened to massacre the whites and burn the towe and he had to organize the few American and Russian cltizens into a guard to patrol the town nights, until the mail steamer carried word to Victoria B. C. when they sent an English gunboat to our relief. The teacher thought she would send these boys into one of the rooms in this building and then tell the Collector what she had

done, that he would be more likely to let them stay when they were in possession than to let them in by asking permission while they were out. It turned out as she thought, for when she told him what she had done, he said "Well as they are in let them stay, I suppose." These boys were determined to be (Boston) boys. They scrubbed the room, washed the windows, got some empty nail kegs for chairs, polished a piece of tin for a looking glass, found a few pieces of lumber and made some bedsteads etc. Archie the eldest and the leader came to my room one evening and wanted me to come up and see how nicely they were fixed. Two of the smaller boys were rolled up in their blankets and were lying on the bare slats, like fish on a gridiron, but then they would soon become Boston boys for they slept on bedsteads.

These boys used to do small chores for the storekeepers and townspeople, and the lucky ones would provide the feast of hard tack and corned beef for the mess. This may be considered as the origen of the Sitka Industrial Training School for on giving these facts to the Board, dear Dr. Kendall, now glorified, wrote giving us permission to start the Home, enclosing $50 for that purpose, and advising us "to go slow and sure." Despise not the day of small things. Mr. A. E. Austin was commissioned as teacher by the Board May 7, 1881, and procee led at once to organize the Boys Boarding School. Capt. Glass who succeeded Capt. Beardslee in command of the naval vessel in these waters, also proved to be a warm friend to the Mission. He took a census of the natives in the Indian village thus finding out the number of children of school age. Had the number of each house painted over the door, commanded the head of each house to see that all the children in his house of suitable age were sent to school each day, and in case of failure, they would have to pay a fine of blankets. Then he had cards cut out of tin, some three inches in diameter, a hole punched through them, a string inserted and worn by the children around the neck like a locket. The number of the house and also of the child was stamped on this tin card. When the children were dismissed from the school at night one of the teachers called out the number from the card while another checked it on the roll book opposite of the house number where the child lived. In a few minutes by this arrangement, a list of the absentees could be made out, which was sent to the Captain, who would send a soldier and arrest the head of the house, when unless a reasonable excuse could be offered he was fined a blanket or imprisonment for a day, for each child who was absent, and for each day absent The fines thus collected were used in buying lime to whitewash these houses, or lumber to help the poor repair them; etc. This was compulsory education which compelled. The result was that the number of our pupils in the day school ran up from 120 to nearly 300. The natives soon fell in with this rule and liked it. No commander was ever so respected by the natives as this one. They said he was Oklane Onkow (big chief) and had a skookum tum-tum, (big heart) The first Sabbath after receiving permission from the Board to start the home, after the morning service was over I told the natives what I wished to do, explaining the benefits their children would derive from it, Capt. Glass was present, (it was his custom to meet them there and if necessary give them the law while I preached the gospel) and he advised the people to send their children into the Home. On asking how many boys wanted to come into such a home, to my surprise 25 stepped up in front of the platform, including the seven boys already mentioned. We then asked the parents if they were willing to have their children enter the home. They gave their consent. Then having obtained the consent of the uncles and aunts, the most important thing of all, for they have more to say about the children than the parents. After this came the most perplexing problem of all. Would the Board consider this going *slow* and *sure* if I received the whole 25 boys at once? And what would $50 do towards clothing and feeding 25 boys for three months, for we could not possibly hear from them in less time, besides fitting up a kitchen and domitories? Capt. Glass understood my dialema and said if I would order the lumber he would have the ship carpenters fit up the rooms, make bedsteads, etc. There were soma tailors among the sailors and if I would buy the material they would make the caps, overalls, etc. So much was to be gained, and the boys looked so pleadingly I concluded to take them all, and the next steamer carried away bills amounting to more than $300 to the Board for supplies.

The hospital was secured from the government and soon fitted up as a home and boarding school. The boys were clothed with overalls and sailor hats, good enough for warm weather, they were happy and very proud, for surely they were Boston boys now.

They were like little animals, needing to be taught everything, even to dress, walk and eat, and had no idea of cleanliness, but they were anxious to learn, and very observing. They soon learned the need of a table, and of dishes for each one, and how to use knives and forks, etc. At home the family only needed a pot and each member a large bone spoon, and the one most skillful in the use of the latter not only fared the most sumptuously, but was respected and honored for his skill. One of our natives told me about a party of Sitka people once visiting the Chilcats. The chief there gave them a feast of berries and oil. It was served in two small new canoes, and the party who got away with the contents of the canoe first, was to have a large prize of blankets. The old man was convulsed with laughter as he pictured the scene to me, and told how several came near dying from drinking so much oil.

Notwithstanding the grave and serious faces of our boys we soon discovered there was a rich vein of humor in their natures. We had one boy who came to us from Hoonah who was very fat. He became very homesick, went to bed where he stayed for a week, and refused to take a mouthful of food. The boys were greatly amused at his conduct and made much fun of him. Finally the question came up what English name should be given him. All the boys called out "Dennis" amid roars of laughter. When the naval vessel left San Francisco for Sitka, among her stores she brought two live pigs. They became very large and fat and were finally removed from the vessel and turned loose in the town. The sailors had named them Fanny Deavenport and Dennis Kearney. The latter animal suggested, as they thought the very appropriate name for the Hoonah boy. He goes by that name to day. Another boy applied to enter the home, but his uncle was bitterly opposed to it, and he looked and acted so simple, I refused to take him. He would come every week or two notwithstanding my refusal and beg to be taken into the Mission. I was impressed with his perserverance. One day while in front of the home he came again requesting as usual to be taken into the home. Capt. Merriman came by at the time, I mentioned the case to him, telling him of the opposition of the uncle. The Captain smiled at his appearance and said he knew more than his uncle, and that if I was willing to take him, he might come and he would see that the Uncle did not trouble him. He was received and was greatly delighted that his perseverance was finally rewarded. Some of the mine owners here had brought some donkeys to pack ore etc. They were a new object of curiosity to the boys and they thought there was quite a resemblance between them and the new boy, and when I asked one of them what the Indian name of the new boy was that I might place it on my roll-book, he slyly introduced the word donkey into it, making it "she-donkey-ish." A day or two after his entrance, the boy who waited on my table asked Mrs. Austin if he might have the red pepper from our bottle of pickles. His request was granted and nothing thought of it, until one of the boys came running to us to tell us "that she-donkey-ish was pretty near die." On investigating the matter we found, that Peter had told him if he wanted to be a Boston boy he must eat the pepper, Boston people ate them; he must eat it quick; it would make him very smart. And it did for he nearly strangled to death. This was our first case of hazing. This seemed to be the turning point in the life of she-donkey-ish, ever after, he was watchful and was too smart for the boys to play any more tricks on him. He became a good scholar and an industrious man, and died with seven others while trying to save a woman a friend of his, from drowning, although he might easily have saved himself, as he was a good swimmer and went down close by the shore. The school was prospering, the boys were making rapid progress in their studies, and improving in their conduct every day. After much labor and considerable expense, the old hospital had been transformed into quite a tidy, comfortable home and boarding school. In one end of the building we had a large airy school room, dormitory, kitchen, etc. for the boys. Capt. Glass had sent a gang of men from the ship to clean out the building whitewash it outside and to paint the schoolroom, make the bedsteads, clear the grounds etc. I had sent to Portland, more than a thousand miles away, for lumber and had partitioned off rooms in the opposite end of the building for my family doing the whitewashing myself (being more of an artist in that line than the boys) put our carpets down for the first time, for all the rooms in the old Guardhouse leaked. Had my books all out into a book case made by my son-in-law, Mr. Styles, out of boards of the packing boxes in which our furniture came from New York. We had not been so comfortable since we left our brick house on Murray hill New York, when on the morning of the 26th of January, 1882, we were awakened by the ringing of the large school bell when we found that our home was doomed to speedy destruction by the devouring flames. It caught from a defective flue over the school room, we suppose, as the roof over that part of the building was consumed when we first saw it. It was an old building very much decayed and that end of the building had settled several inches. The stairs and stoop formerly on that end of the building were gone when we moved into it. The boys acted very bravely, and said they would save my furniture or die, some of them did stay in the burning building until they had to jump out of the second story windows. I went through their dormitory and threw their beds and blankets out of the windows just before the roof fell in, or they would have suffered far more than they did. I expected to lose everything, except the clothes we had on, but the miners turned out so promptly and worked so bravely, most of our furniture was saved. We figured up afterwards and found we had lost some 500 dollars only. No lives were lost no one was hurt, we had enough and heaven still before us. While the building was still burning. I hired some boys, who with hand sleighs, transferred my furniture to our old quarters again, the top floor of the old Guard house. We then hired a small log house from the Russians where the boys were placed, or rather packed, for it was only large enough for a small family. We went to work at once to fit up an old government stable, then standing on the beach in front of Father Metropolski's house the Russian priest. The high tides washed part way under it. The lower floor was partly covered with slabs. The sides were full of cracks and knot holes, and there was an open space on both sides, where the rafters rested on the sills, six or eight inches wide. For once we had all the fresh air we wanted. We laid down a loose floor of rough green lumber, and a large black bear skin for my daughter to stand on while teaching put up a few partitions forming a dormitory, school room and kitchen, and rough as it was our boys were glad to get into it, for one of the little boys had frozen his feet while in the log house. One of the oldest boys got very angry at me because I insisted on working on Washington's birthday. He was so patriotic he thought the day

ought to be observed even if a few small boys did freeze. He was confirmed in his belief as he fell off the roof before night while shoveling snow away from the stove pipe, injuring himself quite seriously I suppose he would have demanded blankets if he had not gone against my express command. The Board at my earnest solicitations, sent Rev. Sheldon Jackson D. D. to select a site for the new home which they had determined to build. We had no land laws in Alaska and yet there were pretended claims against nearly all the land in and around Sitka from the sea to the base of the mountains. The government claimed Japonski Island. The Russian church claimed the ground back of the Indian village and the site of the present building(girls home) was claimed by a gentleman because there was a ditch running through the land by which the water had been conveyed from Indian River to drive a sawmill on the beach near where the Elliot F. Shepard trades building now stands. After looking over the ground, Dr. Jackson selected the present site for the boys home and the work of building commenced in September 1881. It would take a volume to discribe the difficulties encountered in the work, it rained or hailed nearly all the time. The ground had to be cleared and you will get some idea of this part of the work when told that it cost $600 to clear the present site of the boys home, not much over half an acre. The lumber ordered for the building was not at hand, the mill had broken down, and the owner wrote the Doctor that he could not furnish it that season. here was dilema but the Doctor was equal to the occasion. He bought an old cannery with several other buildings connected with it. These buildings were standing on the beach at old Sitka six miles away. They were speedily torn down. made into rafts and towed here by sea. The balance of the lumber needed was ordered here from Portland, Oregon. We had no team to haul the material from the wharf. but we had twenty-five willing boys instead who manned the ropes of the lumber wagon. and I often had the honor of being the leading horse. Everybody that could drive a nail was employed, that would work, white or native and at the end of the month the shell of the boys home like Jonah's gourd, had arisen almost in a night, and was crowning the little hill by the sea. A month or two later during a severe storm, a great wave dashed a large tree against the foundation of the old stable where my daughter was teaching the one hundred and three scholars who were present at the time. wrecking the building so that teacher and children had to escape for their lives. The floor in the new school room was only partially finished, but the school was transferred to the new building, where it remained until a school room was specially fitted up for it when the girls home was built. In addition to the children who are clothed and fed and who live in the home. the children in the Indian village were taught in the day school until the government built a public school for them. Industrial departments have been added from time to time. At present we have a carpenter shop, shoe shop, blacksmith shop, cooper shop, laundry and bakery. The boys under the superintendence of Mr. Shields, our carpenter. have put up our own buildings, our beautiful church among them. They also make the furniture for our teachers rooms, window sashes, doors, etc. They also make all the shoes worn by the children, besides earning some $300 per year doing job work for the towns people. The boys also make all the bread used in the institution averaging nearly a hundred loaves per day. Our girls are taught all kinds of household duties and a number of them are now employed at good wages by our towns people. Some who have graduated from the home have married and are living in cottages built on Mission ground, which they are paying for on the installment plan. We have eight of these cottages. Two of the boys have but one more payment to make when they will own them. Both of these boys learned the carpenters trade, one of them is making over six hundred dollars a year, and the other is probably earning as much, most of it in the few summer months when tourists visit, us by selling silverware which he makes himself from silver coin. A visit to their cottages will illustrate the work our Mission is doing among the natives. It will be well to remember that it is only a little over twelve years since these children came into our home wearing their blankets, from heathen hovels, not homes, and in that time they have learned our language, learned a trade, and nearly paid for their homes. A number of others, who entered the home later. are doing the same thing. We have over one hundred and forty on the roll at present, although quite a number are away on a vacation. Our church was organized in September 1884. I take the following statistics from the church record. Number received, mostly natives, and most of them on profession of faith and baptism 457. Number baptised 609 removed by death and by certificate to other churches etc. 108. We have all told nineteen buildings. worth between forty and fifty thousand dollars. Our greatest need at present is a steam or hot air apparatus to heat our buildings. This will prove a matter of economy, for in the near future we shall have to use coal instead of wood for fuel. In giving such a condensed history I can only give a few of the main facts, but before closing this article I want to state that Rev. Sheldon Jackson D. D. has always given us most efficient aid from the start, helping us in every way by voice and pen, and by personal labor, working with his own hands, superintending the erection of buildings etc. It was no uncommon thing for him to be out day after day, enveloped in a rubber suit, in the cold driving rain storms, while our buildings were in course of erection, and, under God, much of our prosperity is due to his untiring, perse vering efforts. In saying this, I am only writing the history of all the Presbyterian Missions in Alaska he has been a father to them all. not only that, but has been instrumental in inducing other denominations to enter the field. Wm. A. Kelly. now at Fort Wrangel, gave seven years of hard and faithful service as Superintendent of the school etc. Miss A. R. Kelsey devoted an equal amount of time. filling the position of Matron of the girls home. She will long be held in grateful remembrance by the many pupils who experienced her motherly care. Other names are written down in the book above as "good and faithful servants" which we cannot mention here. The Lord has done great things for us in the past. He will do greater things for us in the time to come. To Him be all the glory.

A. E. AUSTIN.

NOTICE.

This will be the last issue of The North Star for the present, or until the Superintendent has more assistance in the school. Rev. Sheldon Jackson, D. D., is so far away and has so many cares he cannot attend to it, and much against our will we are forced to stop its publication. The Doctor writes me saying: "Also give notice that if any of the subscribers have not received the full value of their subscription and will write me, Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C., enclosing a bill for the balance of their subscription I will refund it to them."